

Legislative Digest

Week of July 26, 1999

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J.C. Watts, Jr. Chairman 4th District, Oklahoma

FY 2000 Military Construction Appropriations Act (Conference Report)

H.R. 2465

Committee on Appropriations H.Rept. 106-266 Submitted by Mr. Hobson on July 27, 1999

Floor Situation:

The House is scheduled to consider the conference report to H.R. 2465 on Thursday, July 29, 1999. Conference reports are privileged and may be considered any time three days after they are filed. They are debatable for one hour and may not be amended. On Tuesday, July 27, the Rules Committee granted a rule waiving all points of order against the conference report and its consideration.

Summary:

The conference report to H.R. 2465 appropriates \$8.4 billion in FY 2000—\$76 million less than the House-passed bill, \$76 million less than last year (excluding emergency appropriations), and \$2.9 billion more than the president's request—for military construction activities of the Department of Defense. The conference agreement rejects the administration's request to spread \$8.6 million in military construction projects over two years. Specifically, the conference report provides (1) \$4 billion for domestic and oversees military construction projects (\$187 million less than the House-passed bill and \$249 million more than last year); (2) \$3.6 billion for military family housing (\$14 million more than the House-passed bill and \$22 million more than last year), which includes \$2.8 billion for operation and maintenance of existing units; (3) \$672 million for base realignment and closure accounts (\$34 million less than the House-passed bill); and (4) \$81 million for NATO Security Investment Program (matching the House-passed bill). Although the overall amounts are approximately the same as in the House-passed bill, some of the priorities and specific projects funded by the report differ.

Appropriation Account	FY 1999 Level*	President's Request	House-Passed Bill	Conference Report	% Change from Last Year	% Change from Request	% Change from House
		(in millions)		(in millions)			
Military Construction							
Army	\$983.7	\$656.0	\$1,223.4	\$1,042.0	+5.9%	+58.8%	-14.8%
Navy	\$608.5	\$319.8	\$968.9	\$901.5	+48.2%	+181.9%	-6.9%
Air Force	\$642.0	\$179.5	\$752.4	\$777.2	+21.1%	+333.1%	+3.3%
Defense Agencies	\$551.1	\$193.0	\$755.7	\$593.6	+7.7%	+207.6%	-21.5%
Housing Improvement Fund	-\$5.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	-100.0%	_	_
Army National Guard	\$151.3	\$16.0	\$135.1	\$227.5	+50.3%	+1317.6%	+68.3%
Air National Guard	\$185.7	\$21.3	\$180.9	\$263.7	+42.0%	+1137.0%	+45.8%
Army Reserve	\$102.1	\$23.1	\$92.5	\$111.3	+9.0%	+381.6%	+20.3%
Naval Reserve	\$31.6	\$4.9	\$21.6	\$28.5	-10.0%	+476.9%	+31.9%
Air Force Reserve	\$34.4	\$12.2	\$66.5	\$64.4	+87.4%	+429.9%	-3.2%
Emergency Approps P.L. 106-31	\$475.0	_	_				
Subtotal, Military Construction	\$3,760.4	\$1,425.8	\$4,197.0	\$4,009.8	+6.6%	+181.2%	-4.5%
NATO Infrastructure	\$154.0	\$191.0	\$81.0	\$81.0	-47.4%	-57.6%	0.0%
Family Housing							
Army	\$1,252.2	\$1,112.1	\$1,179.0	\$1,167.0	-6.8%	+4.9%	-1.0%
Navy and Marine Corps	\$1,215.5	\$959.7	\$1,207.6	\$1,232.5	+1.4%	+28.4%	+2.1%
Air Force	\$1,082.4	\$923.7	\$1,166.9	\$1,167.8	+7.9%	+26.4%	+0.1%
Defense Agencies	\$37.2	\$41.5	\$41.5	\$41.5	+11.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Family Housing Improvement	\$2.0	\$78.8	\$2.0	\$2.0	0.0%	-97.5%	0.0%
Subtotal, Family Housing	\$3,589.3	\$3,115.7	\$3,597.0	\$3,610.9	+0.6%	+15.9%	+0.4%
Base Realignment and Closure Accounts							
Part III	\$427.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	-100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Part IV	\$1,197.3	\$705.9	\$705.9	\$672.3	-43.8%	-4.8%	-4.8%
Subtotal, Base Closure	\$1,624.5	\$705.9	\$705.9	\$672.3	-58.6%	-4.8%	-4.8%
Family Housing							
Navy and Marine Corps	\$6.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	-100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Contingency Reduction	\$0.0	\$0.0	-\$131.2	\$0.0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
TOTALS	\$9,134,2	\$5,438,4	\$8,449.7	\$8,374.0	-8.3%	+54.0%	-0.9%

The conference report includes a few major changes from the House-passed bill. Specifically, the conference report provides:

- * \$672 million for Base Realignment and Closure accounts, \$34 million less than the House-passed bill;
- * \$3.3 billion for military construction for the active forces and defense agencies, \$386 million less than the House-passed bill;
- * \$695 million for the construction of National Guard and Reserve forces, \$199 million more than the House-passed version; and
- * \$643 million for new construction and modernization of existing barracks, \$156 million less than the House-passed level.

The conference agreement includes a Senate provision to prohibit the use of funds provided for the NATO Security Investment Program from being obligated for any Partnership for Peace programs in new Independent States of the former Soviet Union.

Legislative History:

The House passed H.R. 2465 by a vote of 418-4 on July 13, 1999. The Senate approved its version (S.1205) by a vote of 97-2 on June 16, 1999.





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